

Cardia, and *Limapontice*, and also *Gammarus locusta*, which is met with wherever Algæ occur.

Beyond this zone there is a sand covered with a fine clay. In this region few animals are met with, and these are either Mollusca (*Mya*, *Tellina*) or Amphipod Crustacea.

The *Skärگرد* of Stockholm possesses a singular fauna. Under the stones which are close to the shore we meet with *Gammari* (*G. locusta*), species of *Jæra*, *Planaria*, and *Nais*, and with young Acephalous Mollusca belonging to the genera *Cardium* and *Tellina*. At a depth of 2-5 fathoms, *Fucus vesiculosus* grows; upon this vegetate *Elachistæ* and various Confervæ. This region swarms with *Mysis*, *Jæra*, *Gammarus*, *Paludinella*, *Mytilus*, with young *Cardia* and with *Flustræ*; even *Phryganidæ* are found there. From a depth of 5 or 6 fathoms to that of 18 the bottom is clayey and muddy; here and there only *Phyllophoræ* grow, together with *Ceramia* and *Poly-siphoniæ* in a stunted condition. The fauna of this zone is richer than would be supposed at the first glance. At a depth of 8 fathoms occurs *Asellus vulgaris*, a freshwater species, in the midst of the *Phyllophoræ*. At a depth of 3-6 fathoms, *Limnæus pereger* (var. *Balticus*) and *Physa fontinalis*! are met with. Near Gothland, Lindström has even found *Limnæi* in the open sea at a depth of 8 and 12 fathoms! How can we explain the existence of air-breathing animals so far from the surface? Do they possess a means of rising and sinking rapidly in the water at pleasure, or must we admit that they only require to renew the air in their pulmonary sac at long intervals? By the side of these *Limnæi* there were living completely marine animals, such as *Nereides*, *Polynoës*, a species of *Sipunculus*, *Tellinæ* and *Cardia*. At a depth of 40 fathoms, nothing is found but a *Pontoporeia*, an *Idothea*, and a *Tellina*.

In the open sea a multitude of small animals are found moving about on the surface; these are principally Crustacea, such as *Evadne*, and also larvæ of Gasteropoda (*Tergipes*) and Acephala. A Diatomaceous plant floats in the midst of these little creatures: it is sometimes so incredibly abundant as to produce what is called on the coasts of Gothland, *the flowering of the sea* (*hafvets blomning*). In the middle of summer it propagates with such rapidity, that the fishermen assert that their boats can hardly pass through the dense layer formed by it.

In a narrow *Sund* near Stockholm, called *Gälö-strat*, the soil is covered with *Myriophyllum* and *Potamogeton*. In the water sport *Cyprini* and other freshwater fishes, as well as Entomostraca also belonging to the fresh waters (*Daphnia*, &c.). At the bottom *Paludina impura* is seen creeping, and yet close beside are *Tergipes* and other marine forms.—*Öfversigt af Kongl. vetensk. Akad. Förhandl. Stockholm*, 1855, p. 49; and *Bibliothèque Univ. de Genève*, January 1857, p. 71.

The Blacks of Moreton Bay and the Porpoises. By Mr. FAIRHOLME.

Between the two long islands which form the south part of Moreton Bay, is a passage known as the South Passage, formerly used
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for ships entering the Bay, but now given up. Near the deserted Pilot Station at Amity Point, some of the natives may constantly be found during the warmer months of the year fishing for "Mullet," a very fine fish about the size of a mackerel. In this pursuit they are assisted in a most wonderful manner by the Porpoises. It seems that from time immemorial a sort of understanding has existed between the blacks and the Porpoises for their mutual advantage, and the former pretend to know all the Porpoises about the spot, and even have names for them.

The beach here consists of shelving sand, and near the shore are small hillocks of sand, on which the blacks sit, watching for the appearance of a shoal of Mullet. Their nets, which are used by hand, and are stretched on a frame about 4 feet wide, lie ready on the beach. On seeing a shoal, several of the men run down, and with their spears make a peculiar splashing in the water. Whether the Porpoises really understand this as a signal, or think it is the fish, it is difficult to determine, but the result is always the same; they at once come in towards the shore, driving the Mullet before them. As they near the edge, a number of the blacks with spears and hand-nets quickly divide to the right and left, and dash into the water. The Porpoises being outside the shoal, numbers of fish are secured before they can break away. In the scene of apparent confusion that takes place, the blacks and Porpoises are seen splashing about close to each other. So fearless are the latter, that strangers, who have expressed doubts as to their tameness, have often been shown that they will take a fish from the end of a spear, when held to them.

For my own part I cannot doubt that the understanding is real, and that the natives know these Porpoises, and that strange Porpoises would not show so little fear of the natives. The oldest men of the tribe say that the same kind of fishing has always been carried on as long as they can remember.

Porpoises abound in the Bay, but in *no other part* do the natives fish with their assistance.—*Proc. Zool. Soc.* Nov. 11, 1856.

EOLIS LANDSBURGII.

To the Editors of the Annals of Natural History.

Northumberland Place, Morecambe, Lancaster.

GENTLEMEN,—It may interest some of the contributors and subscribers of the *Annals of Natural History* to know that a specimen of the *Eolis Landsburgii*, of about $1\frac{1}{10}$ inch in length, was dredged off the coast of Morecambe Bay by myself and a friend. The *Eolis Landsburgii* is mentioned by Alder and Hancock, in their work published by the Ray Society, as only having been found once, and then by Dr. Landsborough, after whom it is called, at Saltcoats; but as the work referred to was published in 1849, more specimens may have been since found*.

Your obedient Servant,

I. JNO. MOSER.

* Our correspondent will find a note on its occurrence near Exmouth in the *Annals* for January 1852.—ED.